



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/799,437	03/12/2004	Jorg-Reinhardt Kropp	INFMN-025	6223
52612	7590	12/15/2005	EXAMINER	
BEVER, HOFFMAN & HARMS, LLP			CHIEM, DINH D	
1432 CONCANNON BLVD				
BUILDING G			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
LIVERMORE, CA 94550-6006			2883	

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/799,437

Applicant(s)

KROPP, JORG-REINHARDT

Examiner

Erin D. Chiem

Art Unit

2883

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is in response to application filed on March 12, 2004. Currently claims 1-24 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
(c) he has abandoned the invention.

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nosu et al. (US Patent 4,244,045 Nosu herein forth).

Regarding claims 1-2, 23, and 24, Nosu teaches an arrangement for multiplexing or demultiplexing optical signals having a plurality of wavelengths, the arrangement comprising a multiplex body (Fig. 12) having first and second parallel surfaces (60) between which light is reflected back and forth and coupled in or out in a wavelength dependent manner (please follow the arrows designating the directionality of light), means for coupling optical signals into or out of the multiplex body, the means including a plurality of essentially structurally identical subassemblies (41-45), each subassembly including an optoelectronic transducer (Fig. 9; 131-135 and col. 5, lines 29-31) and an associated optical system for respectively coupling light having a wavelength into or out of the multiplex body, collimating lens (140).

Regarding claim 3, each subassembly is mechanically connected to the multiplex body, they are mechanically adhering to the body during manufacturing.

Art Unit: 2883

Regarding claims 4-9, Nosu teaches providing means to place the subassemblies at an angular orientation with respect to the second surface of the multiplex body (81-86). These spacers are prisms, which further provide optical functionality to the arrangement. The second surface on which the prisms are placed upon are glass plates (31-36)..

Regarding claims 10-14, Nosu provided thin film bandpass filters (11-16) placed on glass plates (21-26), these bandpass filters reflect non-centered wavelengths (col. 6, line 67 to col. 7, line 2).

Regarding claim 15, elements 41-46 are graded index rod lens for collimating the optical signals from the fibers.

Regarding claims 16 and 17, leadframes are routinely used to encapsulate optoelectronics which also incorporates integrated circuits and furthermore, leadframes are provided with heat guiding adhesive.

Regarding claims 18-22, the subassemblies are structurally identical designed for reception and transmissions, furthermore, the subassemblies taught by Nosu allow the device to operate as a demultiplexer and a multiplexer due to the bi-directionality of the optical paths.

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erin D. Chiem whose telephone number is (571) 272-3102. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 9AM - 5PM.

Art Unit: 2883

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank G. Font can be reached on (571) 272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Erin D Chiem
Examiner
Art Unit 2883



Frank G. Font
Supervisory Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2800